

Pandemic Planning Update V

July 31, 2007

Michigan Department of Community Health

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A Message from Michigan Department of Community Health

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The threat from avian influenza A (H5N1) virus continues to circulate internationally in poultry, wild birds and humans. The World Health Organization pandemic influenza alert phase remains at a 3: No or very limited human-to-human transmission. Human cases are still being seen in southeast Asia and northern Africa. In the past three months, China, Indonesia and Egypt continue to have cases while Vietnam has experienced their first human cases since November of 2005. Countries that have been added to the list of poultry outbreaks include Czech Republic, Ghana, Malaysia, and Togo. Confirmed outbreaks in poultry and wild birds have been seen in the following countries between May and July; Bangladesh, France, Ghana, Germany, Malaysia, Vietnam.

Inter – pandemic phase New virus in animals, no human cases	Low risk of human cases	1
	Higher risk of human cases	2
Pandemic Alert New virus causes human cases	No or very limited human-to-human transmission	3
	Evidence of increased human-to-human transmission	4
	Evidence of significant human-to-human transmission	5
Pandemic	Efficient and sustained human-to-human transmission	6

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/phase/en/index.html

Uncertainty remains regarding whether avian influenza A H5N1 strain will mutate into the next pandemic strain. It is also unknown when a pandemic may occur, regardless of the strain that may cause it. There continues to be ongoing research on the virus, development of a vaccine and expediting the manufacturing of influenza vaccines. As information becomes available the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) will share with their stakeholders.

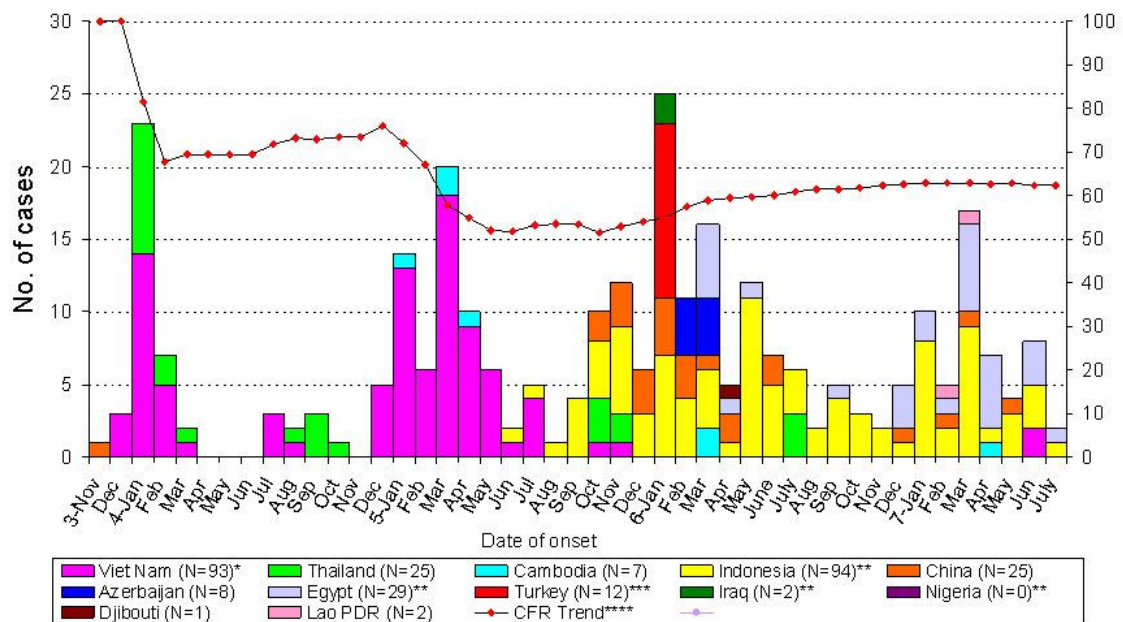
In the month of June, Great Britain experienced 4 human cases of a low pathogenic strain of avian influenza A H7N2.

Monitoring and Surveillance

Global Status

Since our last update (April 30, 2007), there have been an additional 13 human cases and 7 fatalities. As of July 31, 2007, there are 319 confirmed human cases of avian influenza H5N1 in 12 countries, with 192 deaths in 11 countries since 2003.

Human Avian Influenza A (H5N1) Cases by Onset Date and Country
(as of 25 July 2007)



As of 25 July 2007, total of 319 cases were reported officially to WHO.

* The 2 asymptomatic cases in Viet Nam were excluded.

** The 9 cases in Egypt, 8 cases in Indonesia, 1 case in Iraq and 1 case in Nigeria without reported date of onset were excluded.

*** Date of onset for Turkey are based on reporting date.

**** CFR Trend: computed based on cumulative dead & total



http://www.wpro.who.int/health_topics/avian_influenza/data.htm

National Status

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Department of Interior (DOI) surveillance for early detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in wild birds is ongoing. Each state is participating, with an emphasis in Alaska due to the Alaskan flyway, which is a highly probable route of entry of the virus into the United States via birds from the Asian flyway summering in Alaska. Testing for the 2007 season began in April and will conclude in March 2008. To date over 9000 samples have been collected with no highly pathogenic avian

influenza H5N1 cases. You can monitor results of the ongoing surveillance at <http://wildlifedisease.nbii.gov/ai/LPAI-Table.jsp>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to actively monitor and assist in the human outbreaks in Southeast Asia and Africa in an effort to mitigate spread of the virus into the Western Hemisphere. Staff at our borders and international airports have been placed on heightened alert to monitor for signs of avian influenza H5N1 potentially entering the country.

Michigan Status

As part of the National Avian Influenza Surveillance, wild bird testing in Michigan is ongoing with over 200 samples tested this year. As part of the National Poultry Improvement Plan, commercial flocks in Michigan continue to test birds for avian influenza prior to shipment. The Michigan Department of Agriculture is also testing showbirds at county fairs this summer.

“Dead Bird” Reporting

1. Report sick or dead waterfowl, gulls and shorebirds
2. Die off of 6 or more birds in one area during a short period of time

For online reporting go to
www.michigan.gov/avianinfluenza

Or call Department of Natural Resources at
517-336-5030 (M-F 8 to 5) OR
1-800-292-7800 (after hours and weekends)

Human influenza surveillance is being conducted year-round by MDCH, given that a novel or pandemic influenza strain can appear outside of the “seasonal” period, October through April. To assist in our year-round surveillance, MDCH has 91 Sentinel Physicians participating in the program. If you are interested in participating in the Sentinel Physician Surveillance program contact Dr. Rachel Potter at 517-335-8159.

Human Testing for Avian Influenza H5N1

1. A case requires hospitalization or is fatal; **AND**
2. Temperature $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ (100.4°F); **AND**
3. Radiographically confirmed pneumonia or ARDs; **AND**
4. Traveled to an area of the world in past 10 days where H5N1 activity was confirmed or suspected and with reported exposure to:
 - a. Sick or dead birds
 - b. Consumption of raw/undercooked poultry
 - c. Close contact with an ill person who suspected/confirmed to have H5N1
 - d. Worked with live influenza H5N1

The criteria to the left must be met before human H5N1 testing can be requested (see insert). To request testing of a human specimen, contact the Bureau of Epidemiology at 517-335-8165 OR after hours at 517-335-9030.

Pandemic Planning

OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) released guidance in May as to how healthcare providers and their employers can prepare for an influenza pandemic. This guidance offers tools and practical advice for this industry to respond in the event of an influenza pandemic ranging from infection control and industrial hygiene practices to OSHA standards for the workplace. For more detailed information please go to the following website:
www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA_pandemic_health.pdf

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated their operational pandemic influenza plan in July which can be found at the following link: ([CDC Ops Plan](#)). MDCH also updated their pandemic influenza plan in May. Version 3.1 can be found on their [website](#). Information regarding the use of [facemasks and respirators during an influenza pandemic](#) can be found at the MDCH pandemic influenza website, along with FDA's [first approved respirator](#) in public health emergencies.

MDCH Preparedness Activities May thru July 2007

Collaboration and Planning

- A quarterly update to the Travel Toolkit for pandemic influenza was distributed to travel clinics across the state in July. Content material can be found on the Michigan HAN in the EPC folder under Pandemic Influenza or at www.michigan.gov/flu and click on "pandemic influenza".
- MDCH is in the process of developing educational materials for low-literacy and college groups.
- The Public Health and School Workgroup, consisting of State and Local representatives is revising the Michigan School Workbook and will be releasing the updated version in October 2007.
- MDCH conducted a full-scale pandemic influenza exercise on May 16, 2007 to exercise the MDCH Pandemic Influenza Plan, version 3.1.
- The State Pandemic Influenza Coordinating Committee (PICC) Steering Group and sub-committees, consisting of representatives from state agencies, are working on a coordinated response to a potential pandemic influenza outbreak. In October 2007 the PICC Steering Group will present the First Annual Report to the Governor and Cabinet. This report will include identified challenges and recommendations of the subcommittees and multiple working groups convened to address pandemic influenza preparedness issues across the state.
- MDCH continues to participate in Regional State Partners teleconference calls to pandemic coordinators from surrounding states and Ontario,

- Canada. These quarterly meetings allow for sharing of planning and preparedness ideas across state and/or international borders.
- MDCH hosted a state level multi-agency avian influenza tabletop exercise on July 31, 2007; participants also included representatives from the Michigan and Indiana poultry industry. A version of this exercise will take place at four regional locations in September and October.